

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 907

By Brooks K

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Kay McDaniel upon her induction into the Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Kay McDaniel, who will be inducted into the Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame on February 25, 2008, a befitting recognition of her outstanding service in the arena of sports as a teacher, coach, writer, and athlete; and

WHEREAS, throughout her career as an athlete, educator, and motivational speaker, Assistant Professor of Physical Education Kay McDaniel has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McDaniel has rendered sterling service as the Assistant Professor of Physical Education at Lee University since 1991, teaching such courses as Motor Learning, Foundations of Physical Education, Sport and Recreation, and Psychology of Sport and Human Performance; and

WHEREAS, she founded the women's tennis program at Lee University, serving as its head coach from 1991 until 1998 and earning the Coach of the Year award; she also continues to host the Kay McDaniel Tennis Camp, which has annually offered 200 local children free tennis instruction for seventeen years; and

WHEREAS, prior to her tenure at Lee University, Ms. McDaniel, a native of Shreveport, Louisiana, was a three-time All American tennis player and NCAA Finalist at Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, during her professional career, she competed six times at Wimbledon, the U.S. Open, and the French Open, and played against legends such as Billie Jean King, Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert, and Steffi Graf; she was ranked thirtieth in the world as a women's singles player, ranked as high as twentieth as a doubles player, and she garnered the Concorde Award, given by British Airways for the Fastest Serve in Women's Tennis; and

WHEREAS, Kay McDaniel was rightfully inducted into the Tennessee Hall of Fame in 2006 and the STA Hall of Fame in 2007; and

WHEREAS, a popular motivational speaker and writer, Ms. McDaniel has published *Serving the Master* and a number of articles in a variety of publications, and lends her talents as a weekly newspaper columnist for the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*, and a contributing writer for *Championship Performance* and *Peak Sports*; and

WHEREAS, Kay McDaniel eloquently compares the skills learned on the tennis court to skills learned in life, and has stated that there is nothing better in life than an excellent serve, which requires a firm grip, a flexible disposition, a sweet impact, and a solid follow through; and

WHEREAS, in fitting recognition of her career as an educator, Ms. McDaniel has received numerous teaching honors, including being listed in the *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* and *Who's Who Among American Women*, receiving the Honor an Educator award from the International Honor Society for Educators, and garnering an Outstanding Achievement Award from the Louisiana Governor and Council on Physical Fitness and Sport; and

WHEREAS, possessed of a sterling and undaunted character, Ms. McDaniel, who was diagnosed with the incurable disease Systemic Lupus more than ten years ago, has strived to raise awareness of the disease by hosting the annual "Kay McDaniel Walk for Lupus," which was first held in 2002 and joined with the Alliance for Lupus Research in Chattanooga in 2005; and

WHEREAS, her illness has not dismissed her thirst for life, as evidenced by her recent foray into the world of amateur photography; her critical eye and natural talent have gained both notice and awards, winning her the 2004 Outstanding Achievement in Amateur Photography award, the 2005 International Library of Photography award, and the Photographer's Forum 2005 Best of Photography award; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Kay McDaniel for her dedication to the State of Tennessee, her students, and to the sport of tennis; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we join with the family, friends, and colleagues of Kay McDaniel in congratulating her upon her induction into the Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame, even as we honor and commend Ms. McDaniel for her substantial legacy as a teacher, coach, writer, and athlete and offer our deep appreciation for the dedication that she has shown our State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.